

S P R I N G 2 0 0 2

ACCENT

A MAGAZINE FOR AVILA COLLEGE ALUMNI, STUDENTS, AND FRIENDS

L to R:
Tom Gordon,
Avila College President,
Christine & Don Alexander,
Honorary Chairs

Steer Dinner

An Evening of Simple Elegance

LETTER FROM THE PRESIDENT

Across our country, Americans are looking forward to a more peaceful 2002. I cannot think of a time in history when the core values of Avila are more meaningful to our college and our community.

We believe education is more than academic achievement. The Sisters of St. Joseph have instilled the Avila Community values in the students' total education.

Avila has an enviable reputation for academic excellence. Over the last

You can be justifiably proud of Avila, and we in turn are proud of our alumni, donors and friends.

year, our student population has grown, and striking physical improvements have taken place on our campus. New programs in and outside of the classrooms have been well-received.

Avila's dedication to the development of the whole person continues to differentiate us from others, particularly in times of confusion and turmoil. Consider a few of Avila's Community Values: *The worth, dignity and potential of each human being. Interaction with and service to others.*

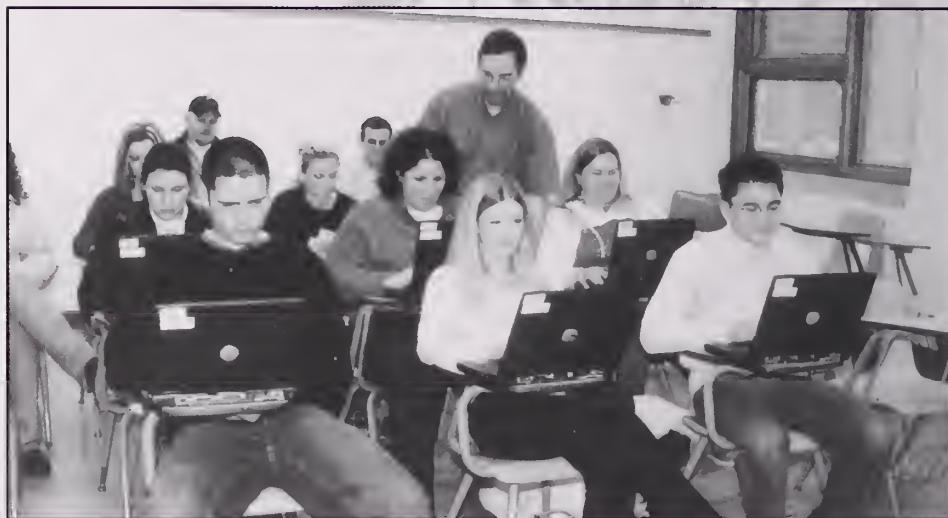
You can be justifiably proud of Avila, and we in turn are proud of our alumni, donors and friends. Your support and prayers are important to the continued success of Avila.

Sincerely,



Thomas F. Gordon, J.D., LL.M.
President

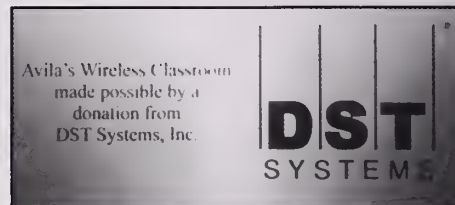
Where Does All the Money Go?



PATRICK KOPP, ASSISTANT PROFESSOR OF COMPUTER SCIENCE, USES THE WIRELESS CART IN HIS CLASSROOM.

The DST Wireless Classroom is Plugged In!

For 26 years, Avila has invited alumni, friends, students, faculty, and staff to a wonderful evening with great food and an exciting auction. Money is raised towards student scholarships and special funds. At Steer Dinner 2001, money was raised and then matched by DST Systems to provide a wireless classroom for Avila students. The classroom is now up and running and students and instructors are experiencing the endless possibilities that wireless laptops and Internet capabilities can provide.



THE BRONZE PLAQUE MOUNTED ON THE WIRELESS CLASSROOM CART SHOWS HOW MUCH WE APPRECIATE OUR FRIENDS AT DST SYSTEMS.

Fund-A-Need — Giving Students Direction

Steer Dinner 2002 hopes to raise \$50,000 for the new, Alumni-sponsored mentoring program — Giving Students Direction. Twenty-five Avila students will be matched with mentors who will not only help guide them on their career path, but provide role models in character and social development. Contributions for the mentoring program can be made through the Alumni Office at 816-501-2422. ■

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An Evening of Simple Elegance

Steer Dinner 2002 — An Evening of Simple Elegance will take place Saturday, March 9, 2002, at the beautiful Fairmont Hotel on the Country Club Plaza. For 26 years, Steer Dinner has raised money for student scholarships and other special funds. Started in 1976 by Sister Olive Louise Dallavis, then President of Avila College, Steer Dinner has grown to be one of Kansas City's most premier fundraising events. This year, attendance is expected to be over 500 with a goal of \$275,000 raised.

This year's Chairpersons will be Don and Christine Alexander. Don and Christine have a passion for philanthropy and have made a personal commitment to helping others. Don serves on Avila's Board of Trustees.

Serena Aernie, Director of Development at Avila College, is excited about the changes taking place at this year's event. The auction has been shortened in favor of quality of items instead of quantity. One of Kansas City's finest big bands, The Steve Miller Band, will provide swing music for the dance that has been added to the evening's line up. "We designed an evening around Simple Elegance. A time for people to come out and really enjoy themselves. This is Avila's 'new' Steer Dinner and we know everyone's going to love the changes," says Aernie.

Mary Beth Meyers, longtime friend of Avila College and generous supporter of Steer Dinner, is again underwriting the event and acting as Event Sponsor. Mrs. Meyers' support makes it possible for all the monies raised to go directly to the scholarship fund and other designated funds.

The 26th Annual Avila College Steer Dinner will be held March 9, 2002, at the Fairmont Hotel on the Country Club Plaza. Cocktails begin at 5:30, dinner starts at 7:00. For more information, please contact Serena Aernie at 816-501-2450. ■

The image shows the cover of a magazine titled "the Independent" with the subtitle "Kansas City's Weekly Journal of Society". The date "February 2, 2002" is visible in the top right corner. The main feature is a large photograph of Mary Beth Meyers, an older woman with short, curly blonde hair, wearing a light-colored blazer and a necklace. She is smiling and standing next to a decorated Christmas tree. To the left of the main photo is a smaller inset photo of a man and a woman. Text on the cover includes "Happy Trails", "NYC - There's Something About You", "Angels' Wings", and "Mary Beth Meyers Event Sponsor". At the bottom left, there is a circular logo for "The 26th Annual Avila College Steer Dinner & Auction" and a "Bank of America Corporate Sponsor" logo.

*"We designed an evening around Simple Elegance.
A time for people to come out and really enjoy themselves."*

Healing Touch

In 2002, the idea of holistic medicine may seem kind of on the edge, just teetering between “normal” and “last resort.” Imagine for one second how it must have seemed in 1982, the year Ann Cathcart graduated with her nursing degree from Avila College. Ann is a healing touch practitioner. She’s bonified. She’s certified. And she’s for real. Her business card has four sets of initials after her name. The August 2000 issue of *Minnesota Monthly* named her as one of two holistic nurses statewide. So where did a graduate of a private, midwest liberal arts college receive an education in holistic nursing? Right here at Avila College. “My instructors would recommend books for me to read,” says Cathcart, “Books that empowered people



to take charge of their own health. I liked the idea that people could manage their own health care. Even while I was studying at Avila, it never occurred to me that I wasn’t a holistic nurse.”

It is important to Cathcart that people be their own health advocates. She worked

that philosophy into her Healing Touch practice. She specializes in energy therapies which include healing touch, therapeutic touch, Reiki, and Qigong healing.

Ann is not alone. More and more patients are turning to alternative medicines as a preventative measure against future health problems. Some cutting edge doctors offices now have holistic nurses on staff, including healing touch nurses like Cathcart. “I’d like to see every doctor’s office have a holistic nurse,” says Cathcart.

Ann credits her education at Avila for setting the foundation for her holistic approach. If you would like to learn more about healing touch, go to Ann’s webpage at www.clearpathtowellness.com. ■

On November 15, 2001, Mayor Kay Barnes of Kansas City, Missouri, presented Mona Bush Resolution #011597. In addition to congratulating the ‘96 Avila Nursing Graduate for becoming a member of Sigma Theta Tau International Honor Society of Nursing, the resolution also extolled Mona’s work in lead poisoning prevention. She submitted a Lead Poisoning Outreach Grant Proposal to EPA Region VII and was awarded \$10,000 which will be used to design a pictorial brochure to be given to non-English speaking citizens and citizens with low reading skills. Mona is currently the case manager of the Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention program at the Kansas City Health Department. ■

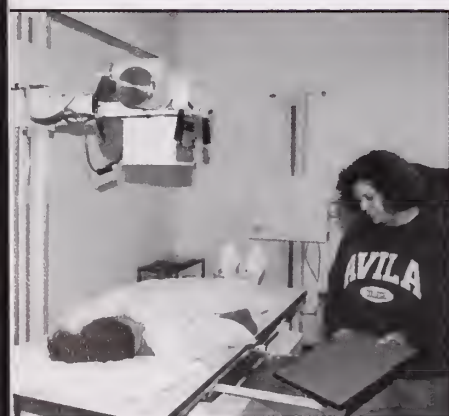


KANSAS CITY MAYOR KAY BARNES, MONA BUSH, AMYBETH ROBERTS, SUSAN FETSCH, MARTHA BLACKMAN, LONNA BOEN AND TOM GORDON

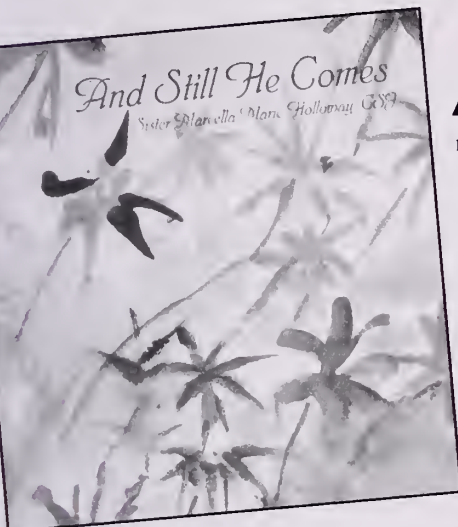
One of Avila’s largest degree programs is also its least known — a Bachelor of Science in Radiologic Technology. “With radiology field job opportunities on the rise, it’s no wonder that as of January ‘02, Avila has 45 students in the program,” said Carole Hillestad, M.S. Ed., Program Director, Radiology Services. It’s also one of the most successful degree programs at Avila. To date, every graduating student found a job. There are only 23 baccalaureate programs in the country and students at Avila can choose an emphasis in advanced clinical practicum, educa-

tion, or management. Students may then work as instructors or managers, as well as radiographers.

Avila’s rad tech equipment is new and state-of-the-art. Students practice on full-size, actual radiological machines. In some cases, the equipment students learn on is newer and more advanced than the ones in hospitals where they work. Funding for the equipment came from the Victor E. Speas Foundation. The equipment is important because the first time the student touches the equipment, it will be in the classroom, not the exam room. ■



Sister Marcella Marie Holloway's Book of Poems



A lumna and former professor of the college, Sister Marcella Marie Holloway, CSJ, is the author of a recently released volume of religious poetry, *And Still He Comes*. Avila College published the book with the expenses underwritten by the Sisters of St. Joseph of Carondelet, St. Louis.

Sister Marcella Marie graduated from the College of St. Teresa (became Avila College in 1967), and both directed and taught in the English department of the college from 1947-1963.

The collection of poems is thematically united in its focus on the life of Christ. Artwork of Avila alumna, Jean Marra Falcone '75, appears in the interior and as a colorful cover. Alumna, Debbie Seigler '00, served as graphics designer.

Publication of the book came about through the guidance of Sister Olive Louise in the early planning stage, the generosity of the Sisters of St. Joseph, and the efforts of committee members Dorothy Brandt Marra (CST '52), Belinda Troxler ('88), Anne Bauman (writer and retired professor of English, Johnson County Community College), and Professor Mary Etta Benson (English Department Avila College). G. Richard Scott, Avila College Director of Planned Giving, coordinated the book project.

Proceeds from the sale of *And Still He Comes* will fund the Sister Marcella Marie Holloway, CSJ, Endowed Scholarship at Avila College.

To place your order for one or more books at a cost of \$9.95 each, plus \$2.00 for postage and handling, please complete the form printed in this Avila Accent. Make checks payable to: Avila College and send to: Avila College, Director of Planned Giving, 11901 Wornall Rd, Kansas City, Missouri 64145-1698. ■

ORDER FORM

☐ **YES**, I would like to order *And Still He Comes* by Sister Marcella Marie Holloway, CSJ at \$9.95 per book

_____ qty. x \$9.95 = _____

Shipping and Handling \$2.00
Not For Profit — no tax

Total Amount Enclosed _____

☐ Check enclosed (payable to Avila College)

☐ Mastercard ☐ Visa ☐ Discover

Card # _____

Exp. Date _____

Name on Card _____

Send Books to:

Name _____

Street Address _____

City/State/Zip _____

Mail Order Form and payment to:

Avila College • Director of Planned Giving
11901 Wornall • Kansas City, MO 64145-1698

Campus Pride

Theatre

Avila College's production of *King Henry IV* was entered in the American College Theatre Festival's fall competition and was judged during the fall performance. The play received an "excellent" rating, with special acting awards given to **Stephen Mitsch** for his portrayal of Prince Hal, and to **Scott Turner** for his portrayal of Falstaff. Both Stephen and Scott will advance to the regional acting competition held in Lincoln, Nebraska.

Communications

Avila College is in the process of becoming affiliated with the American Advertising Federation (AAF). The AAF is a professional organization that offers an array of networking opportunities and other services to persons in the advertising field. The

college branch of the AAF allows students to make early contacts in their field and build their portfolios. **Kasey Riley** and **Karl Yehle** have agreed to sponsor a college chapter of the AAF on our campus.

Education

Dr. Reulan Levin, assistant professor in the Education department at Avila College received one of sixteen Luther Distinguished Service Awards. Luther College is located in Decorah, Iowa and the award is one of the highest bestowed by the college. It is given to recognize the successes and achievements in the professional field, contributions to community, and loyalty and support for Luther.

Dr. Levin also spent five weeks in Senegal, West Africa, researching and developing curricula as a member of the Fulbright-Hays Group Projects Abroad Team.

Avila Joins the MonsterTRAK Family!

monsterTRAK.com

Avila's Career Services office recently launched its partnership with monsterTRAK, "the definitive career resource for college students and alumni, an exclusive service of Monster.com."

Through this password-protected service, Avila students and alumni will be able to take advantage of a job search and resume service designed just for them!

Alumni are highly encouraged to register. In order to do so, you must first call us at 816-501-3666 and provide us

with some information. You will then be given the Avila password. That allows you to establish a profile for yourself and begin to take advantage of all that monsterTRAK has to offer!

This is a tremendous service to both students and alumni. The site, including vacancy notices, will be accessible for all computers with Internet access. It will provide a secure place to upload up to ten resumes per person and will facilitate on-line application for jobs posted. In addition, it has the potential to provide a wonderful vehicle for communicating programs and services to current students more efficiently. ■

Do you know the difference between mitochondria and cytoplasm?

On November 3, 2001, over 100 high school girls descended on the Avila campus to compete in the 11th Annual Math and Science Challenge.

The event was started eleven years ago by the NAHSM Division and The Women's Studies Program at Avila College. The Challenge encourages young women to pursue careers in the sciences. It's also a great forum for showcasing their knowledge in typically male-dominated topics.

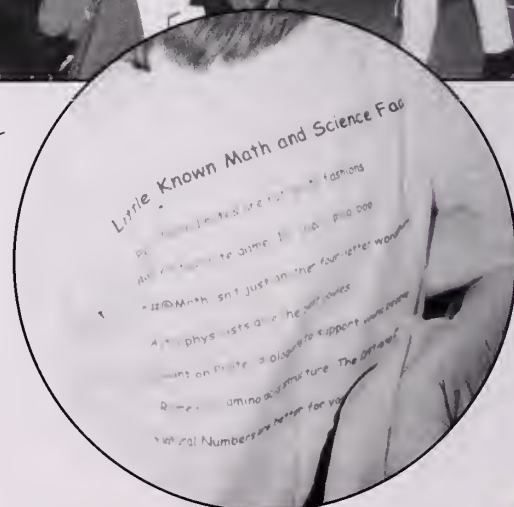
Watching the girls compete in the Challenge differs very little from attending a sporting event. Several teams dressed in matching t-shirts and high-fived their teammates over correctly answered questions.

The Math & Science Challenge is open to girls in grades 9-12. Fourteen high school teams of eight girls participate each year. The girls answer questions in 5 different categories: Biology, Chemistry, Physics, Mathematics, and Earth/Space Science.

Schools participating in this year's event:

Bishop Miege
Blue Valley High School
Center High School
Concordia R-II High School
Grandview High School
Lafayette County C-1 High School
Lincoln College Prep High School

Oak Park High School
Park Hill South High School
St. Teresa's Academy
Shawnee Mission East High School
Shawnee Mission South High School
Winnetonka High School



C.W. Gusewelle

On December 9, 2001, Kansas City Star columnist, G.W. Gusewelle, wrote a story about a boy and a bouncing ball. Many Kansas Citians, including the Avila family, read the story with amusement. Gusewelle told of a child with white blond hair trying with determination



**THE UNKNOWN
BLOND BOY,
COACH TIM JOHNSON**

to sink a basketball into a hoop that may as well have been 20-feet tall. One year later, with experience and confidence behind him, the boy "sank more of his shots" than he missed. Gusewelle reminisced about other events between the blond boy and himself. Those events occurred almost 30 years ago. Now, as the article states, that boy "has grown into a man of 39 years, married, with two sons of his own. He's now the head coach of a college football team."

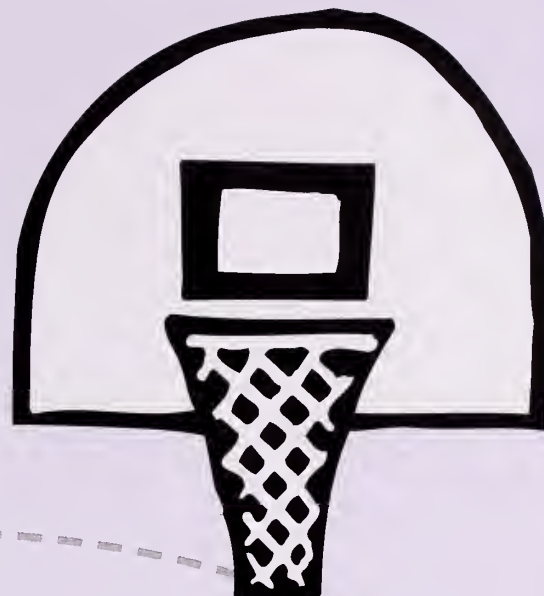
Many Kansas Citians probably wondered who that blond child-athlete was.

We know. He is our very own Tim Johnson, head coach of Avila's football team. He is still blond, still an athlete, and still very much determined. ■

Christmas at Avila



There was a large attendance at the traditional Avila College Christmas Eve Mass. Father David Matz, Campus Chaplain, celebrated the Mass. Tom Jacobs, well-known composer and performer, provided music before and after the Mass. The people attending the Mass included members of the Avila community as well as long time friends and supporters of the college. They enthusiastically joined in the Christmas music that was led by Mr. Jacobs.



Who is
that
blond
child-
athlete



Sports Schedules

[SPRING 2002]

Softball

DATE	OPPONENT	TIME	LOCATION
3/4-3/9/02	Argonaut Classic Tournament	TBA	Pensicola, FL
3/12/02	Haskell University	2:30 PM	Lawrence, KS
3/16-3/17	Wm. Woods Tournament	TBA	Fulton, MO
3/19/02	Wm. Jewel College	3:00 PM	Liberty, MO
3/21/02	Newman University	3:00 PM	HOME
3/22-3/23	Tiger Classic Tournament	TBA	Jefferson City, MO
3/24/02	Cental Methodist College	1:00 PM	Fayette, MO
3/27/02	Graceland University	2:00 PM	HOME
3/29-3/30	Avila Tournament	TBA	Blue Springs, MO
4/2/02	Mid-America Nazarene	5:00 PM	Olathe, KS
4/6/02	Lindenwood University	2:00 PM	St. Louis, MO
4/9/02	Benedictine College	3:00 PM	HOME
4/12/02	Evangel College	3:30 PM	HOME
4/13/02	Culver-Stockton	2:00 PM	HOME
4/16/02	Baker University	3:00 PM	HOME
4/18/02	Lincoln University	3:00 PM	HOME
4/20/02	Missouri Valley College	2:00 PM	Marshall, MO
4/23/02	Conference Rainout Date	TBA	TBA
4/24/02	Conference Rainout Date	TBA	TBA
4/26/02	HAAC Tournament	TBA	Springfield, MO
4/27/02	HAAC Tournament	TBA	Springfield, MO

JV Softball Schedule

3/13/02	Mid-America Nazarene	2:30 PM	Avila
3/26/02	Mid-America Nazarene	5:00 PM	Olathe, KS
3/28/02	Maple Woods CC	2:30 PM	Avila

For ticket information, call (816) 501-3634

Baseball

DATE	OPPONENT	TIME	LOCATION
2/24/02	Benedictine	1:00pm	Atchison, KS
2/25/02	Ottawa	1:00pm	Ottawa, KS
3/2/02	Graceland	1:00pm	Home
3/3/02	Mount Mercy	1:00pm	Home
3/4/02	University of Mary	1:00pm	Home
3/6/02	University of Kansas	4:00pm	Lawrence, KS
3/8/02	Bellevue/Bethany	3:00pm	Bethany, KS
3/10/02	Valley State	1:00pm	Home
3/12/02	Bethany	1:00pm	Home
3/16/02	Jamestown	12:00pm	Home
3/19/02	Park College	1:00pm	Home
3/21/02	Lincoln	1:00pm	Home
3/23/02	*William Jewell	1:00pm	Liberty, MO
3/24/02	Harris Stowe	1:00pm	St. Louis, MO
3/26/02	*Benedictine	1:00pm	Home
3/27/02	William Penn College	1:00pm	Home
3/30/02	*Central Methodist College	1:00pm	Home
4/3/02	*Lindenwood University	2:00pm	St. Charles, MO
4/6/02	*Missouri Valley	1:00pm	Home
4/7/02	Lincoln	1:00pm	Jefferson City, MO
4/9/02	*Baker University	1:00pm	Baldwin City, KS
4/13/02	Park College	1:00pm	Kansas City, MO
4/14/02	Bellevue	1:00pm	Bellevue, NE
4/17/02	*Mid-America Nazarene	2:00pm	Home
4/20/02	*Evangel University	1:00pm	Springfield, MO
4/21/02	Baker University	1:00pm	Home
4/23/02	*Culver-Stockton	1:00pm	Home
4/27/02	*Graceland	1:00pm	Lamoni, IA
4/28/02	Missouri Valley	1:00pm	Marshall, MO
5/2-5/4	HAAC Tournament		
5/8-5/11	Regionals		

Head Coach: Ryan Howard

Assistants: Pat Cornejo, Brandon Clevenger, Jeremy McGowan

* denotes conference games

Sister Marie Joan Harris, named Provost of Avila College

Marie J. Harris, CSJ, Ph.D., Vice President for Academic Affairs, has been named Provost of Avila College.

Sister Marie continues as Vice President of Academic Affairs. A member of the Congregation of the Sisters of St. Joseph, she began her career at Avila in 1970 as a

"Her tireless efforts in academic affairs and administrative duties are invaluable assets to our college."

full-time faculty member. She taught chemistry for 17 years, and then assumed her position as Vice President in the college's administration.

Avila College's President, Thomas F. Gordon, J.D. LL.M., announced the appointment of the new Provost. "Sister Marie has dedicated many years to improving the learning environment of Avila College," said Gordon. "Her tireless efforts in academic affairs and administrative duties are invaluable assets to our college."

Sister Marie has a Bachelor of Arts in chemistry from Fontbonne College and a Doctorate in Analytical Chemistry from the University of Kansas. ■



AVILA PRESIDENT, TOM GORDON
AND SISTER MARIE JOAN HARRIS

Amy Bucher Photographic Artists



2001 Hall of Fame Inductees:

L TO R: MARK HATCHETT, TINA CALDWELL-HOLLAND,
GINGER COLDSNOW AND JEFF GILMORE

NEW FACES

Paul Bookmeyer joins the Avila Executive Committee as Vice President for Finance and Administrative Services. Paul comes to us from Mt. St. Clare College in Clinton, Iowa. A Nebraska native, Paul moved to Kansas City with his wife Sandy. Paul and Sandy have two grown sons.



Kindertransport by Diane Samuels

February 28, March 1, 2 (8 p.m.)
Matinee • March 3 (2 p.m.)

GOPPERT THEATRE

Please call (816) 501-3699 for reservations.

Alumni

U P D A T E

ENGAGEMENTS

Heather Lee Anderson and Derek Everett Feagans '95
Mrs. Gloria Anderson announces the engagement of her daughter, Heather Lee Anderson, to Derek Everett Feagans '95.

Jennifer Withoelder and Mike Straatmann '00
Beverly Withoelder, Washington, announces the engagement of her daughter, Jennifer Withoelder, to Mike Straatmann '00, son of Kurt and Myrna Muser and Paul and Carol Straatmann, all of Washington.

MARRIAGES

McClure – Fasl '96
Gary and Paulette McClure of Kansas City announce the marriage of their daughter, Laura McClure of Overland Park, to Anthony Fasl '96 of Prairie Village.

Wheeler '98 – Hathcock
Don and Debbie Wheeler and Angie Jenkins of Drexel, MO announce the marriage of their daughter, Andrea Dawn Wheeler '98 of Drexel, to Jan William Hathcock of Drexel.

Jackson – Molinaro
Dr. and Mrs. Roger Paul Jackson of Prairie Village, KS, are pleased to announce the marriage of their daughter, Ashley Lane Jackson, to Adam Parke Molinaro, the son of Dr. and Mrs. Robert Charles Molinaro of Cleveland, MO.

Langdon '00 – Graham '00
Randy and Jeannette Langdon of Gillette, WY, announce the marriage of their daughter, Katrina '00, to Richard Graham III '00 of Pleasant Hill.

Tucker '00 - Criswell '99 Anna-Lisa Criswell '99 and Stephen D. Tucker '00 were united in marriage Saturday September 23, 2000.

Stealey '01 – Valentine '00

Amy Maureen Stealey of Olathe and Ian David Valentine of Shawnee were married on September 16, 2000 at Redemptorist Catholic Church.

ANNIVERSARY'S

Eugene and Kathryn (Stark) Southard '51 of Shawnee are celebrating their 50th wedding anniversary on June 1st 2001.

Mary Elisabeth Hessel Heiman, '47 and Harold Heiman celebrated fifty years of marriage on October 13, 2001.

DEATH'S

Joanne Lester Ottley, '84 of Kansas City, MO Passed away June 21, 2001 at St Joseph Health Center.

Erline Marie Agnes Wheeler Lynas, '57 of Kansas City, MO passed away December 12, 2001, at her home.

Helen N. Franke-Joslin, '63, passed away peacefully on October 15, 2001 after a heroic battle with cancer.

Warren Winters, husband of **Carolyn Winters, '62** passed away on November 1, 2001.

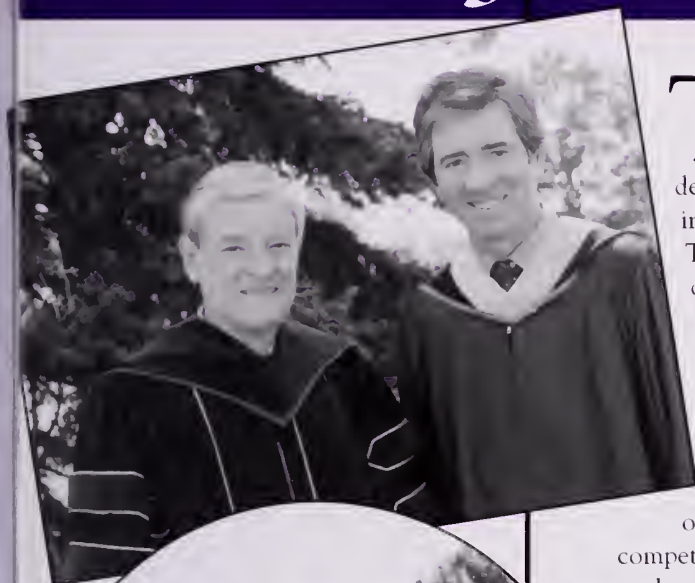
Patricia Gallagher Molloy, wife of John J. Molloy, passed away in Scottsdale, AZ in November. 2001.

David Joseph Fischer, '47, died Wednesday, January 30, 2002 at his home in Kansas City, MO after a brief but courageous battle with cancer.

Susan Brown, '42, of Raymore, MO passed away Friday, January 4, 2002, at her residence.



"Let us take pride in our past and go forward with faith in tomorrow."



TOP PHOTO

AVILA COLLEGE PRESIDENT TOM GORDON WITH JIM WILLCOX, CHAIRPERSON OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

BOTTOM PHOTO

INAUGURAL COLOR GUARD TEKIA THOMPSON, ERIC SCHROER (GRAND MARSHALL), AND CELECCIO HERNANDEZ

This was the last sentence in the inaugural address of Avila College's new president, Thomas F. Gordon. The inaugural theme, "Faith in Tomorrow" exemplifies Gordon's optimism for Avila College, and the community it serves.

"We are committed to helping our students achieve excellence in their fields of study. But, we are also committed to providing an education that offers more than intellectual competence. We not only educate our students for making a living, but for making a life," said Tom Gordon.

The September 29 Inauguration day began with a morning Mass at the president's parish, Visitation Church. The Most Reverence Raymond J. Boland, D.D., Bishop of the Diocese of Kansas City-St. Joseph, celebrated the Mass. Reverend Normal Rotert, Pastor of Visitation, gave the homily. A missioning service was conducted by the Sisters of St. Joseph, Sister Paulette Gladis, Associate Director of the Missouri Province, presiding. President Gordon also spoke at the Mass, recalling his grade school days at the Visitation church and school where he first came to know the Sisters of St. Joseph.

The Inauguration Ceremony was held in Avila's Goppert Theatre. Delegates from 42 colleges joined Avila, faculty, staff, students, and members of the Kansas City community for the fes-

tivities. Jim Willcox, Chairperson of the Avila College Board of Trustees, conferred the title of President to Gordon. Sister Paulette Gladis presented a piece of silk from the original Motherhouse of the Sisters of St. Joseph in LePuy, France, to the new president.

Sister Marie J. Harris, Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs, presided at the Inauguration Ceremony. Speakers at the ceremony included Sister Olive Louise Dallavis, President Emerita; Karen McCarthy, U.S. Congresswoman; Harry Wiggins, Missouri State Senator; Kathryn J. Shields, Jackson County Executive; and Alvin L. Brooks, Mayor Pro Tem of Kansas City, Missouri. Other dignitaries who spoke were Tom McCullough on behalf of the Board of Trustees, Dr. Stephen Sirridge on behalf of the faculty, Alicia Hoffman on behalf of the staff, Candice Frede on behalf of the students, and Kathryn Gordon Murphy on behalf of the Gordon family. Stanley Banks, a member of the Avila faculty, presented a poem especially written for the occasion. The Avila Choral Group, under the direction of Amity Bryson, performed two pieces during the ceremony.

Following the inauguration, faculty, staff, students, visiting dignitaries, and friends went to the Whitfield Center on the college campus for a reception. Paul Higdon, member of the Avila College faculty, played the piano at the reception. ■

DEAR ALUMNI DEAR ALUMNI DEAR ALUMNI DEAR ALUMNI DEAR ALUMNI

LETTER FROM THE ALUMNI PRESIDENT

Greetings and Happy New Year!

I hope that this year will be one of good health and prosperity for each of you.

Your Alumni Board of Directors continues to work dili-



gently to explore ways that we, as alums, can continue to be part of the energy and excitement at Avila. Committees have been formed to begin shaping new programs such as an Alumni Athletic League and a revised Student Mentoring program. Both of these initiatives, along with others being considered, will allow the opportunity to get

involved, or more involved, in the lively environment related to the College. Please contact the Alumni Relations office if you would like to provide your input regarding these ideas.

The 26th Annual Steer Dinner will be held March 9 at the Fairmont Hotel. The Alumni Board will once again be present and active as this year's dinner continues the fine tradition of raising funds to help provide Avila students with scholarships. Several silent auction items along with a live auction will add to the excitement of the evening. Please consider joining us to gather with friends and reminisce about your college days as you help Avila meet the needs of future students.

Thank you for your attention. Best regards.

Sincerely,

Greg Lever

Alumni E V E N T S Calendar

March 9, 2002Avila College Steer Dinner, Fairmont Hotel • 6:30 pm

April 26, 2002Donor Barbeque, Avila College



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